

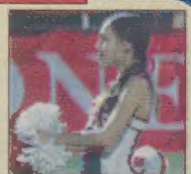
Couple honored
for 70th wedding
anniversary



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INSIDE

Zion Chapel picks
up win over
Geneva County



The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 22

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, October 19, 2023

1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert



2023 Little Miss National Peanut Festival belongs to Coffee County!

Little Miss Coffee County Ada Donaldson won the crown last Saturday night, Oct. 14, as the 2023 Little Miss National Peanut Festival Queen. Ada is a second grader at New Brockton Elementary School. She is the daughter of Drew and Kristi Donaldson of Elba.

Elba Police arrest Florida man on drug charges

Elba Police arrested a Panama City, Florida man last Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 10, on illegal possession of drugs.

According to Coffee County Jail records, Jeremy Cox, age 52, of Panama City was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond], and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia [\$1,500 bond].

As of press time this week, he remained in the Coffee County Jail.



Jeremy Cox

During Elba City Council meeting

City clerk says redistricting needed

The Elba City Council met for a rather routine meeting Monday evening, Oct. 9, and during that time, the council voted to all door-to-door neighborhood trick-or-treating in the city again this year designated for a separate time than the annual Pumpkins on the Square event.

Since 2020, this is something the city has done, and the council voted to allow it again this year. The neighborhood door-to-door trick-or-treating time will be Saturday, Oct. 28, from 5-7 p.m. in Elba. Those participating are asked to have their porch lights on while those not wishing to participate should make sure their porch lights are off that evening.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Elba Chamber will host its annual Pumpkins on the Square event for the city. This will be held on the square in downtown Elba,

beginning at 6 p.m. During her report to council members, city clerk Sally Bane said the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission [SEARP&DC] had done an analysis of the city's current census population for the five districts to assess the need for redistricting.

"It was determined that redistricting is needed," Bane said.

She said SEARP&DC officials would begin that process for redistricting before the end of the year to allow for plenty of time for it to be completed before the 2025 municipal elections.

Also while updating council members on various matters, Bane noted that youth basketball registration for the Elba Parks and

See ELBA, Page 2

HONORING OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Elba native serves aboard Navy warship

by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Beverly Taylor, Navy Office of Community Outreach

Petty Officer 2nd Class Tray Morrow, a native of Elba, Ala., serves aboard a U.S. Navy warship operating out of Norfolk, Virginia.

Morrow graduated in 2019 from Zion Chapel High School.

The skills and values needed to succeed in the Navy are similar to those found in Elba.

"Growing up in a small town really taught me different trades and a strong work ethic from a young age," said Morrow. "Growing up on a farm teaches you how to get up really early and deal with unpredictable challenges. This is very similar to what I have experienced in the Navy and I love that I already have those skillsets to help me succeed at my job."

Morrow joined the Navy four years ago. Today, Morrow serves as a machinist's mate aboard USS Kearsarge.

"I joined the Navy because serving in the military has been in my family for a very long time and I wanted to keep the tradition going," said Morrow. "I also wanted to travel and learn some new experiences."

Kearsarge's crew is made up of approximately 1,200 crewmembers and can accommodate up to 1,800 Marines. Amphibious assault ships transfer Marines, equipment and supplies, and can support helicopters or other aircraft. Kearsarge is the third ship in the Wasp class of multipurpose



Petty Officer 2nd Class Tray Morrow

amphibious assault ships and is the fourth Navy vessel to bear the name of Mount Kearsarge in New Hampshire.

Serving in the Navy means Morrow is part of a team that is taking on new importance in America's focus on rebuilding military readiness, strengthening alliances and reforming business practices in support of the National Defense Strategy.

"The Navy contributes to national defense by showing that the U.S. is a powerful country, but also willing to

help out in many ways," said Morrow.

With 90% of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of undersea fiber optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to trained sailors and a strong Navy.

Morrow has many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during military service.

"My proudest accomplishment in the military is when I am able to teach a younger sailor something new and they come back to me to help them succeed," said Morrow. "Their success makes me feel like I did my job."

As Morrow and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in serving their country in the U.S. Navy.

"Serving in the Navy means that I am able to work with people from different cultures and we all manage to get along and make a ship go," said Morrow. "That unity is awesome to witness."

Morrow is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

"I really want to thank everybody in my family and all my friends back home who supported me," added Morrow. "My grandfather showed me that the military can be a good avenue for me and my dad truly showed me what hard work ethic was. My mom is obviously just the best, and my sister is probably the strongest young woman I know. I appreciate them all so much."

Inviting all to come enjoy the fun

Pumpkins on the Square returns to Elba on Halloween night, Oct. 31st

The City of Elba is gearing up for its annual thrilling Halloween event — Pumpkins on the Square, scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 31, on Courthouse Square in downtown Elba.

The event, which promises to be a fun-filled evening for locals and tourists alike, begins at 6 p.m. and will feature free candy, a haunted hayride, a unique Witch Ride, a costume contest, food vendors, and live music. Pumpkins on the Square is not just about fun and games; it also serves a noble cause. The event's haunted hayride and bouncy house proceeds will go towards organizations at Elba High School. There is no admission fee to the event as area businesses and organizations give out free candy to the kids. Also, the Coffee County Farm City Association will be offering free boiled peanuts during Pumpkins on the Square.

The event's costume contest is free to enter and begins at 7 p.m. on the main stage. There are fees for food vendors, games and activities. Sandy Williams, the Chamber of Commerce and Main Street director, expressed her enthusiasm for the

event. She emphasized that Pumpkins on the Square is a family-friendly event suitable for all age groups. New to the event this year, a 'Witches Ride' will kick-off the evening at 5:30 p.m., with participants encouraged to Halloween dress-up as witches. Bicycles, golf carts, etc. are invited. The ride will begin at the circle driveway of the Elba Recreation Department [764 Claxton Ave], cover the short distance from there to the Square, with participants throwing candy to spectators.

The Witch Ride will kick-off the main event with the entrance of the 'witches' in the downtown area. Joey Daniels, the Chamber of Commerce board chairman, encourages everyone to come in their favorite Halloween costumes and enjoy all the festivities. For more information about Pumpkins on the Square contact the Elba Chamber of Commerce (334) 897-3125



Elba Rotarians Kenneth Calhoun (left) and Justin Maddox (right) recently were recognized as Paul Harris Fellow awardees. Also, recognized for the award were Barry Giles and the late Bill Brunson.

Rotarians receive Paul Harris Fellow award

The Elba Rotary Club recently celebrated members who were recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow with various types of awards.

The Paul Harris Fellow program recognizes individuals who contribute to The Rotary Foundation of

Rotary International. The honor was established in 1957 to show appreciation for contributions that support our Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Foundation grant.

Members recognized recently included: Barry Giles, Justin Maddox, Kenneth Calhoun, and the late Bill Brunson. Awardees were celebrated with certificates and/or lapel pins.

In other news, The Elba Rotary Club has begun its revitalization campaign in anticipation for the 20th anniversary of Tiger Town Park.

Tiger Town Playground was built in 2006 as a community initiative and has proven to be a well-loved resource to Elba. As the 20th anniversary (2026) approaches, the Elba Rotary Club received an assessment of items that are in need of repair through their oversight of maintenance for the park.

A few weeks ago the club officially kicked off this initiative by purchasing new wood chips and replacing two slides that were noted in the assessment.

"The allocation and

See ROTARY, Page 3

Area Happenings

The October 2023 meeting for the DAV Wiregrass Chapter 99, located in New Brockton, Ala., will be Thursday Oct. 26, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will take place in the New Brockton Senior Center. Also, Chapter 99 maintains a help desk located at the New Brockton Town Hall. Hours of operation are 9 - 11 a.m. on Wednesday of each week. This is a free service to help with a VA claim. For further information contact Charles Lobdell at 334-718-5707 or Mike Doran at 334-406-6700.

Elba's Homecoming Bonfire will be Thursday, Oct. 26, at 6:30 p.m. at Tiger Town Park.

Elba Homecoming Parade will be Friday, Oct. 27, at 3 p.m. Those planning to be in the Homecoming parade may complete the online form (<https://forms.gle/m5Ht8zGiJERNJda8>) or call the high school office to be entered into the parade lineup. The deadline to be entered is Thursday, Oct. 26, at noon.

Elba's Neighborhood Trick-or-Treating will be Saturday, Oct. 28, from 5-7 p.m. Those wishing to participate and welcome trick-or-treaters are asked to leave their porch light on while those not wishing to participate are asked to turn the porch light off.



The Elba Masonic Lodge #170 hosted its annual "Wheels on the Square" car show last Saturday, Oct. 15, in downtown Elba. Car enthusiasts had plenty to see as all kinds of makes and models were on display around the square. Also, during the event, the Masonic Lodge hosted a community blood drive for LifeSouth. Additional photos from the car show can be seen on Page 3 of today's paper.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"An educated citizenry is a vital requisite for our survival as a free people." – Thomas Jefferson

Olympic gold medalist Mary Lou Retton is in the hospital, all hooked up to machines, with a severe breathing problem. Whatever her issues, the medical expenses have gone through the roof. In spite of her lifetime success with gymnastics, her daughter put out a call for financial help on a go-fund-me account. Within days the pledges far exceeded the amount requested. We recall watching her perform during her career and recall her smile and personality radiated while performing or just talking. She left the impression that she had a heart of gold. We wish her well.

Two tourists were shot and killed in Brussels, Belgium last week. Killings are happening all too often all around the world. This one resonated with us because we have walked down those downtown Brussels streets. It was of course years ago but not one moment did we feel unsafe. Those Belgian people were extremely nice and accommodating. We met two couples that took us under their wings, and when necessary, translated for us, etc. They gave us phone numbers, mailing addresses and invited us to come back when we had more time to see and enjoy the beauty of their country. One of the ladies was obviously pregnant but her smile and conversation stayed toe-to-toe with that of her husband all that afternoon. They were as anxious to get information about the United States as we were about Belgian. Those addresses are still in our files but we haven't written them in many, many years. The odds of both couples still living at those same places are slim to none, but we keep them anyway. As an afterthought we are grateful that we don't have another trip scheduled to Europe any time soon.

Alvin Benn, of Selma, AL, died last week. He was first a reporter for the wire service UPI, and a number of newspapers around the South before becoming a longtime reporter for the Montgomery Advertiser. Al was a really nice guy. You would never have suspected it from his mild personality, but he was a veteran of the U. S. Marines. For years he traveled Southeast Alabama picking up hard news and human interest stories for the Advertiser. After officially retiring from the Advertiser he continued to write his column, 'Al Benn's Alabama'. In true romantic style he met his future wife, mother of his two children and lifetime companion, Sharon, on a blind date, set up by friends.



The Moore You Know: Standing with Israel

We all watched in horror as the State of Israel came under unprovoked attack from a terrorist group that is celebrating the beheading of infants, raping of women, and cold-blooded murder of hundreds.

Elba Police Report

This report reflects activity for the Elba Police Department from Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023, through Monday, Oct. 16, 2023, as reported to and dispatched from the Coffee County 911 Dispatch Center –

Tuesday, Oct. 10 – Suspicious vehicle reported at Hwy 51 and Hwy 167 (1:50 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 981 County Rd 239 (2:11 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported on Sunset Blvd (2:44 p.m.); Harassing communications reported at 100 Beaver Dam St, A3 (6:50 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 270 Tyler St, New Brockton (11:14 p.m.). Three traffic stops resulted in one verbal warning, one arrest, and one advice given.

Wednesday, Oct. 11 – Unauthorized use of a vehicle reported at 1228 Jones Circle (9:48 p.m.). Five traffic stops resulted in three written warnings, and two verbal warnings.

Thursday, Oct. 12 – Burglary reported at 343 Brunson Circle (12:02 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 343 Brunson Circle (3:39 p.m.); Harassment reported at 1404 Reese Ave (5:22 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1223 Neil Grantham Dr – a citation was issued (7:38 p.m.); Theft of property reported to Elba Police (8:23 p.m.). Six traffic stops resulted in five written warnings, and

one verbal warning.

Friday, Oct. 13 – Reckless driver reported in area of County Rd 342 and Hwy 87 (2:57 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at Neil Grantham Dr and Flournoy Dr – verbal warning issued (7:51 p.m.). Four traffic stops resulted in three verbal warnings, and one citation.

Saturday, Oct. 14 – Suspicious vehicle reported at 318 Smith Ave (12:21 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 617 Putnam St (7:18 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 100 Beaver Dam St, B3 (11:02 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 707 Kennedy Dr (11:53 a.m.); Report of shots fired on Jackson St (4:58 p.m.); Runaway juvenile reported at 1549 Powell Circle (5:09 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 816 Putnam St (7:40 p.m.); Child abuse reported to Elba Police (9:42 p.m.). Four traffic stops resulted in one citation, two verbal warnings, and one written warning.

Sunday, Oct. 15 – Suspicious person reported on Claxton Ave (2:06 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 987 Drayton Ave (7:24 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported on Scott Dr (9:56 p.m.); Fight reported at 987 Drayton Ave (9:58 p.m.).

Monday, Oct. 16 – Domestic disturbance reported at 1232 Ann St (12:16 p.m.); Suspicious person reported on Caroline St (12:42 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 406 Simmons St (12:55 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1217 Deal St (1:36 p.m.); Harassment reported to Elba Police (8:38 p.m.); Reckless driver reported on Hwy 84 near National Security (11:36 p.m.). Five traffic stops resulted in four written warnings, and one verbal warning.

The death count is now in the thousands, and 27 Americans are among them. This attack is the largest single-day mass murder of Jews since the Holocaust.

I stand with Israel as they work to defend themselves against these atrocities.

As soon as we have elected a Speaker, one of our first priorities should include aid to Israel. But we also need to consider what led to this tragedy. Our disastrous Afghanistan withdrawal in 2021 demonstrated great weakness and left \$512 billion in weapons that have made it into the hands of multiple terrorist groups.

Furthermore, just weeks ago, President Biden paid Iran \$6 billion for the release of five American hostages. President Trump brought 58 hostages home without paying a dime. Even if Iran can't currently access the \$6 billion Biden gave them, they can access the \$80 billion in oil exports they have earned since Biden lifted Trump's economic sanctions. When Biden projects weakness on the world's stage, terrorists see an opportunity.

In May, I had the privi-

lege of visiting Israel for the first time and was amazed by the history, the scenery, and most of all, the people. The Holy Land is filled with resilient citizens who love their faith, honor their history, and are ready to fight for their country. All the Israeli Defense Force members we met were passionately dedicated to protecting their homeland, even under constant threat of rocket fire. They now face much greater risks.

My wife Heather and I are heartbroken for the families who are now missing, or have lost, loved ones. I hope you will join us in praying for the leaders, defense forces, and families in Israel. Genesis 12:3 promises us that those who bless Israel will be blessed, and those who curse Israel will be cursed.

My office is standing by to assist Alabamians who need help following these terrorist attacks. If you or someone you know needs help, you can reach my office by calling 202-225-2901 or going to barmyrmoores.house.gov. If you need to reach the U.S. Embassy in Israel, you can call 1-833-890-9595.

ELBA Continued from Page ONE

Recreation would only be open throughout the month of October. She said anyone wanting to register their child or children for basketball should visit Elba. recdesk.com to complete the online registration.

The city clerk also noted that some street repaving is continuing in Elba. She said there would be delays with traffic during this time as streets involved in the project are repaved but added that the end result should be worth any inconveniences caused during this time.

Council members voted to approve a new alcohol

license for Monterrey's in Elba. This was due to a change in ownership. The restaurant holds a "Restaurant Retail Liquor License for on premises consumption" at 522 Claxton Avenue.

A motion was passed to allow for the repaving of Whitman Street as part of ongoing paving projects within the city. The additional paving project is projected to cost under \$30,000.

The next Elba City Council meeting is set for Monday, Oct. 23, at 5:30 p.m., at Elba City Hall.

Cuzin Lou Lou's
Tales from Yonder

Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

A little 'cool snap' hits, and Papa is jumping up and down to turn the heat on! At least, that was the case this past Sunday night when it got a little chilly outside. However, the nicely insulated house was keeping everything at a

pleasant 73 degrees in the Yonder Gang's residence when Papa thought it might be a good idea to turn the heat on for the "just in case we need it" scenario.

Papa was sitting in his recliner watching football, and Cuzin Lou Lou and Sister were moving around the house – each on some sort of personal mission – when Papa decided to ask, "Ya'll want me to go ahead and turn on the heat?"

Immediately and in unison, Lou Lou and Sister each replied, "NO!"

What in the name of Yonder was Papa thinking?!?!? Yes...it was a little cooler outside, but there was definitely no need for the heat to be on inside!

Papa got the message real quick, and he sat back in that 'ole recliner and continued watching the game rather than stir that nest anymore. Of course, that did not stop Lou Lou and Sister from reminding Papa that if he was a "little cool" there were plenty of throws lying around, and he could always grab one of those to get a little cozier!

The day will come when it is time to turn the heat on at the gang's house, but Lou Lou is hoping that is still several weeks away for now. In the meantime, she is going to see if she can help Papa be more inclined to grab a throw by making sure he has a more "manly looking one" lying around for him to grab.

It may be the only way his 75-year-old body and the 40-something bodies of Lou Lou and Sister all co-exist under the same roof, especially if Papa is already thinking about the heat when it is only Fall and not even Winter yet!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

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Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
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Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15



Regan Danner of Brundidge, Ala., formerly of Elba, enjoyed showing off his 70's model Ford pickup truck during last Saturday's car show in Elba. His dad, Devin Danner of Elba, also had his 60's model Ford Mustang on display for all to enjoy seeing.

ROTARY

(Continued from Page 1)

installation of items on the assessment are vital to ensure that Tiger Town Park is around for another 20 years," said Courtney Pelham Maddox, current Elba Rotary Club president. "Our club recognizes the large undertaking of this project and the need to sustain this fantastic staple to our downtown. We want to ensure that the memories that have been made at the park will continue for another generation."

The club will begin to communicate on how individuals, businesses and other organizations can help with the 20th anniversary. The club will also start to apply for grants to maximize our efforts for allocating items on the assessment.

ELBA ALUMNI:

The 2023 Elba High School Alumni Association meeting will be Friday, Oct. 27 [HOMECOMING], beginning at 11:15 a.m. at the Elba Country Club. A \$12 optional lunch [lasagna, green salad, bread, tea or water] will be served. All alumni are encouraged to attend!! Come hear updates about your alumni association! This also is a joint meeting with the Elba Quarterback Club.



Archie Golden enjoyed having his granddad, Greg Bailey, push him around in his F150 Raptor truck last Saturday at the car show in Elba.



Coffee County Youth Wins During Alabama National Fair Heifer Show... Dow Boyd of Coffee County exhibited the Reserve Grand Champion Bred and Owned heifer during the Alabama National Fair Youth Beef Cattle Heifer Show. The show was Sunday, Oct. 8, at Teague Arena in Montgomery. Fair livestock shows are sponsored by the Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance. Also on Saturday, Oct. 7, at the Teague Arena, Boyd exhibited the 3rd Overall Champion during the Alabama National Fair Youth Beef Cattle Market Show. Boyd is pictured here with Federation and Alfa President Jimmy Parnell, right, and judge Abigail Pollock of Tennessee, left.

Ask Heath

Heath Wyrosdick, Funeral Director/Embalmer

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Coping with the Unspoken Grief: The Loss of a Pregnancy or Infant

The profound anguish experienced from the loss of a pregnancy or an infant is an indescribable sorrow, touching the very core of one's being. This grief, intertwined with aspirations and a bond formed from the moment of awareness, is truly profound. Observations from numerous individuals navigating this path have consistently highlighted the essential nature of self-care during such times; it is not merely recommended but imperative.

When we talk about self-care in the context of such a loss, we are not referring to the popularized notions of spa days or retail therapy. It's more about giving yourself permission to grieve and finding ways to navigate the complex tapestry of emotions that follow.

For some, the act of pouring emotions onto paper can be incredibly therapeutic. Imagine sitting down with a journal, the pages blank and waiting, and just letting your heart speak. It might be memories, letters to the little soul, or simply an outpouring of feelings. Over time, this written record can serve as a testament to your healing journey, with all its ebbs and flows.

Art, in all its diverse forms, offers a canvas to express when words fall short. Maybe it's the gentle brush strokes on paper, molding clay, or losing oneself in the cadence of music. Through art, emotions find a tangible outlet, and it becomes less about the result and more about the process of creation and expression.

Often, the grief associated with losing a pregnancy or infant can feel isolating, as though you're trapped in a silent bubble. It's essential to remember you're not alone in this. Keeping the lines of communication open with loved ones can act as a lifeline. There's immeasurable power in shared stories, empathetic nods, and even silent companionship.

And let's not forget the simple yet potent acts of self-care that root us in the present. Lighting a candle, immersing oneself in a book, dedicating a quiet moment each day to reflect, or simply focusing on deep, measured breaths—these seemingly small acts weave together to create a sanctuary of healing.

In the end, while the pain of losing a pregnancy or an infant may never truly vanish, the way we engage with our grief evolves.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

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Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

JOHNNY FRANK McWATERS

Mr. Johnny Frank McWaters, age 79, a resident of Jack, Ala., died Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023, at his residence.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Oct. 14,

2023, at Jack Assembly of God Church with Pastor Chad Fuller and Pastor Duran McNeil officiating. Burial followed in the Jack Assembly of God Church Cemetery with Skeen Funeral Home of Troy

directing.

Johnny was born Aug. 16, 1944 in Coffee County, Ala., to the late Grady Curtis McWaters and Lonnie Mae Cole McWaters.

In addition to his parents, he also was preceded in death by his brother Edger McWaters and his wife Grace, and a sister-in-law, Mary McWaters.

Survivors include his wife: Pam McWaters, Jack; sons: Jonathan McWaters (Joell) and Curtis McWaters (Wendy), all of Jack; grandson: Lune McWaters, Jack; brother: Wayne McWaters, Jack; and sister: Winnie Richards (Monroe), Jack.



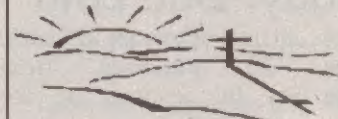
ELBA FOOTBALL PLAYERS AND CHEERLEADERS RECOGNIZED Friday, Oct. 13, at the Elba Quarterback Club's "Game Day" Lunch Meeting included (from left) cheerleaders McKenzie Foster and Taylor Day, and football players Brayden Johnson, Logan Horton, and Jamal Siler. The Elba Quarterback Club hosts the "Game Day" Lunch Meetings during football season, and the meetings are held at the Elba Country Club. Lunch is available for purchase during the meeting, which begins at 11:30 a.m. This Friday [Oct. 20], Elba will travel to Florala in a key region matchup.

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NOTICE

I, Steven Albert Colclasure, will no longer be responsible for any bills other than those made by me personally.
9-28, 10-5,12,19-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA
ELBA DIVISION

IN RE: The Estate of BARBARA HENDERSON, Deceased.

CASE NO. PC 2023-076

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted to Monica Henderson, as Executrix of the Estate of Barbara Henderson, deceased, on the 10th day of October, 2023, by the Honorable Jodee Rowe Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Gypsy Morrow Smith
Gypsy Morrow Smith (MOR100)
Attorney for Executrix
119 E. Three Notch Street
Andalusia, Alabama 36420
(334) 222-8220

10/19,26&11/2-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA
ELBA DIVISION

CASE NO: PC-2023-070

IN THE MATTER OF CLEVELAND BROWN, Deceased.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to Emma Clark on the 10th day of October 2023 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be forever barred. Witness my hand this the 10th day of October 2023.
Emma Clark
Personal Representative
10/19,26&11/2-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JUDY KELLEY SIMMONS, Deceased.

CASE NO.: PC-2023-059

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Mary Shannon Anderson, as Administrator of the Estate of Judy Kelley Simmons, deceased, on the 4th day of June, 2023, by Hon. Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the

said Estate of Judy Kelley Simmons are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson
Judge of Probate

10/19,26&11/2-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: PATTY SUE SASSER, DECEASED.

CASE NO.: PC 2023-060

NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of PATTY SUE SASSER, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 10th day of October, 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate that they are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or such claims will be barred.

/s/ Dennis Paul Sasser
DENNIS PAUL SASSER
Personal Representative

10/19,26.&11/2-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA
ELBA DIVISION

CASE NO: PC-2023-071

IN THE MATTER OF VERA MAE BROWN, Deceased.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to Emma Clark on the 10th day of October 2023 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be forever barred. Witness my hand this the 10th day of October 2023.
Emma Clark
Personal Representative
10/19,26&11/2-pd.

Notice to Contractors Federal Aid Project No. STPAA-HSIP-0189(535) COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on November 03, 2023 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Safety Widening, Planing, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on SR-189 from the junction of Reese Avenue to the junction of SR-12 (US-84) in Elba. Length 0.931 mi.

The total amount of uncompleted work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate.

The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In Thirty (30) Working Days.

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$6.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

Minimum wage rates for this project have been predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and are set forth in the advertised specifications. This project is subject to the contract work hours and Safety Standards Act and its implementing regulations.

Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith.

The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract.

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$528,742 To \$646,241.

The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act.

Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of The Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

The Alabama Department of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42

U.S.C. 2000D TO 2000D-4 and Title 49 code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination

in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

JOHN R. COOPER
Transportation Director
10/19,26 & 11/2-chg

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SPORTS NEWS

Views From

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

We went with our daughters and our two grandsons to visit a pumpkin patch over the weekend and while it was a great day to be out, both Nanny and I were a little tired after a couple of hours of following them around the farm and tromping through the pumpkin patch and sunflower field. Lawson always enjoys picking his own pumpkins that will be on display on their front porch and found some good ones, and this time he also enjoyed shooting basketball at a goal atop a tractor. As for Cannon, he wanted to walk all over the farm and even rode a motorized cow with his Mom. Yep, it was a fun day for everyone in the Mularz Family!

For what it is worth....

*** *The Elba Tigers had their hands full* with an aggressive team from Georgiana last Friday night, but took the fight to their visitors for all four quarters and posted a big win to remain atop the region standings with three weeks left in the regular season. Elba used a ball control running game to score three early touchdowns and eat time off the clock, and after allowing a touchdown on a big play applied the clamps to the high-scoring Georgiana offense and in the second half took complete command. The Tigers did make some mistakes that kept them from building on their lead and definitely can't make eleven penalties in a single game. However, the game last week was intense and the Tigers answered the bell and came out fighting to remain the team to beat in the region.

*** *It wasn't too good a week around the area* with only one team being able to log a win on their side of the ledger. Here's a quick look back at last week's action.... * Zion Chapel kept plugging along and evened its record at 4-4 with an 18-0 shutout win over Geneva County. The Rebels have developed an identity over the course of the season that they are hard-nosed and physical, and it seems to fit. * New Brockton appeared ready to hang with highly-favored Straughn for a quarter and a half Friday night, but saw the wheels come off the wagon and could only watch as they fell 41-12. The Gamecocks have improved in a lot of areas this season, but right now just don't have enough athletes to be big winners in a very competitive region. * Kinston saw its playoff hopes vanish in a 31-29 upset loss to Red Level, and now will be playing for pride in the final three weeks of the season. The Bulldogs jumped ahead early, but allowed a couple of big plays and when the final horn sounded they were on the wrong end of the final score. Look for the Bulldogs to play even harder than ever in the weeks to come and go out with a bang.

*** *It was another exciting week across the state* as 16 teams scored sixty points or more, led by Coosa Christian, who almost blew out the scoreboard in a 94-7 win over Cedar Bluff. Other lopsided wins included Randolph County blasting D.A.R. 75-13 and Clay-Chalkville rolling past hapless Huffman 72-0. By the way, Huffman has now been outscored 454-0 this season and is on track to break a couple of records for futility! Here is a quick look back at the action across the state in week #8.... **Class 1A** – Top-ranked Leroy whipped Southern Choctaw 41-8 and #3 Sweet Water battled past Keith 27-7, while closer to home Florala outscored McKenzie 36-34. **Class 2A** – Top-ranked B.B. Comer ripped Thorsby 35-13 and #2 Highland Home coasted past Barbour County 39-0, while closer to home Cottonwood spanked G.W. Long 48-15, Goshen beat Luverne 34-17, Arifton clobbered Abbeville 54-20 and Pike Lib rallied past Liberty County 17-14. **Class 3A** – Top-ranked Mars Hill pounded Phil Campbell 62-6 and #2 Mobile Christian kept pace with a 34-0 win over Cottage Hill, while closer to home Houston Academy rolled over Northside Methodist 42-7, Opp dumped Daleville 33-14 and Providence Christian outscored Pike County 46-26. **Class 4A** – Top-ranked Andalusia cruised past Slocomb 42-6 and #3 Montgomery Catholic blanked Bullock County 38-0, while closer to home Dale County got back in the win column with a 37-30 victory over Geneva. **Class 5A** – Top-ranked Gulf Shores rolled past Elberta 55-7 and #3 Clay Central blanked Sylacauga 48-0, while closer to home Charles Henderson ripped Eufaula 51-31, Headland hammered Carroll 52-22 and Rehobeth surprised Greenville 21-18. **Class 6A** – Top-ranked Saraland kept rolling with a 56-7 win over Baldwin County and #3 Muscle Shoals dumped Decatur 56-, while a little closer to home Pike Road outscored Russell County 63-27 and Lanier fought past Stanhope Elmore 32-24. **Class 7A** – Top-ranked Central, of Phenix City, defeated Percy Julian 35-6 and #2 Thompson kept pace with a 68-7 win over Oak Mountain, while closer to home #9 Dothan surprised #6 Enterprise 21-14 to throw the region into a mess with

three weeks left. *** *It was a so-so week for the college teams* in the state as Alabama held on late to get past Arkansas 24-21, Troy blanked Army 19-0 and Auburn fell on the road to LSU 48-18. The Crimson Tide took charge early, but again proved to even the biggest Bama fan that this year's team will have to scrap and fight to defeat any team on its schedule, while the Trojans used an aggressive defense and an effective offense to surprise the Black Knights, and the Tigers simply didn't have enough weapons to hang in with a high-scoring LSU offensive attack.

*** *The apparent never-ending exodus* of sports teams from the AISA is continuing as Fort Dale, of Greenville, announced last week that the private school would join the ranks of the Alabama High School Athletic Association beginning in the 2026-27 school year. Rumors indicated Fort Dale would make the jump next season, but school officials had a change of heart and also made a change in plans in backing up the move for two years. I am not sure why the school decided to wait, but my guess is that the struggles of Pike Liberal Arts after its recent move made the school officials decide to jump in slowly, and not try to compete in the AHSAA until all its sports teams are really ready to be competitive.

*** *Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator* was running a little late and sent this week's picks by email, but the local guesspert did hit on 30 of his 35 picks last week and continued to enjoy a banner season. He stated this week includes more than its share of toss-ups, but swore to never back down and sent his fearless forecast. Here goes....

ELBA VS. FLORALA

The Pea River felines will take a trip down near the state line this weekend looking to remain unbeaten and hold on to their spot atop the region standings. A litter of kitties that hang out just this side of the line have been quietly moving up the standings all season and will be waiting to spring a trap. However, the felines are also on a roll and should roll to win #8.

ELBA 41 FLORALA 22

KINSTON VS. MCKENZIE

The bulldogs from down near the county line went back to the pound hungry last weekend after being caged at home, and this week will be looking to chase a litter of kitties all over the field to prove they are still the top dogs in the area. While the dogs may do some chasing, these kitties have claws and won't back down from a fight.

MCKENZIE 36 KINSTON 22

Tigers travel to Florala

From the frying pan into the fire

The Elba Tigers will close out their regular season road schedule Friday night when they travel to Florala to battle the high-powered Florala Wildcats, in a key region match-up.

Elba holds a slim 17-14-4 series edge over Florala, has won five of the last six meetings and last season posted a 55-27 win.

"It looks like there is never an easy week on our schedule," stated Elba Tiger head coach Marc Sieving. "Last week we played Georgiana, which was undefeated in region play, and this week we have to travel to Florala for a road challenge against a team that has won five straight games and sits second in the region standings with only one loss. There is no doubt we are having to be at our best every time we take the field, and that will

Elba Lady Tigers looking forward to area tournament challenge

The Elba Lady Tigers will be looking to continue to add even more accomplishments to their historic season this week when they travel to Kinston High School to compete in the Class 1A, Area 1 Volleyball Tournament.

The Lady Tigers will tip-off tournament action at 1:00 against Houston County, with Kinston to face Florala at 2:15. The winners of the opening matches will meet for the tournament title and the top seed in next week's Super Regional Tournament, with the runner-up earning the number two seed.

"This group of girls have worked hard all season to improve as individuals and as a team and are close to reaching one of their goals, which is to get to Montgomery to compete at

certainly be the case again this week down at Florala."

Florala will carry a 6-1 record into Friday night's clash with wins over Red Level 48-13, Southern Choctaw 44-22, Pleasant Home 60-6, Samson 20-8, Houston County 24-14 and McKenzie 36-34, and a lone loss to Georgiana 44-0.

"Florala runs a unique offense that is hard to get ready for and hard to stop," added Coach Sieving. "Their quarterback is an exceptional athlete that can hurt you both running and passing and it all starts with him. They will empty the backfield and use a lot of motion with jet sweeps and passes out in the flats, and the quarterback will run on power plays and read options. They have an offense that makes the most out of their athletes and they put points on

the Super Regional," said Lady Tiger head coach Melissa Mularz. "We felt like we had a very good shot at making it to Montgomery last season, but fell one win short, and everyone on the team is really focused on making the trip this season. We know Houston County is the team that knocked us out last season, and while many think pay back is a good source of motivation, our motivation is to play our best and keep the season going."

"We know all the teams in the area tournament will be playing their best and will be playing hard to advance to the next round," added Coach Mularz, "and we will have to match their intensity and play our best. It will be a real fight, but one we are ready for."

BRANTLEY VS. PLEASANT HOME

The bulldogs from up across the creek enjoyed a week off and should be well fed and well rested when they get back on the field this weekend. The folks in the concession stand better put on a sale early in this one because the fans will get to head home early.

BRANTLEY 55 PLEASANT HOME 0

NEW BROCKTON VS. ASHFORD

The roosters that hang out behind the warehouse lost even more feathers last weekend and will now have to load up on insect repellent as they get ready to hit the field against a batch of yellow jackets that are looking to sting and run. The roosters won't back away from the fight, but may get more than just a few stings in this one.

ASHFORD 40 NEW BROCKTON 34

ZION CHAPEL VS. COTTONWOOD

A coaching friend of mine likes to use the term 'a fight in a phone booth,' and this week the Rebels will do just that as they go to war against a bunch of ornery ole bears that can lock down the region title with a win. The troops from Fort Jack will have their muskets loaded and may hit a few targets, but in the end the bears may be just a little too much to handle.

COTTONWOOD 35 ZION CHAPEL 14

OTHER PICKS:

Leroy 55 Fruitdale 0
Millry 40 McIntosh 6
Georgiana 46 Red Level 6
Arifton 28 Wicksburg 20
G.W. Long 48 Abbeville 12
Samson 20 Geneva County 16
Highland Home 48 LaFayette 0
Goshen 27 Lanett 22
Reeltown 48 Luverne 7
Mobile Christian 35 Flomaton 10
Providence Christian 42 Daleville 14
Houston Academy 31 Opp 13
Straughn 35 Northside Methodist 3
Jackson 35 St. Michael 17
Andalusia 28 B.T. Washington 8
Geneva 29 Bullock County 28
Montgomery Academy 24 Slocomb 21
Montgomery Catholic 42 Dale County 6
Charles Henderson 35 Headland 28
Carroll 33 Greenville 22
Eufaula 40 Rehobeth 20
Carver 34 Lanier 20
Pike Road 41 Stanhope Elmore 21
Enterprise 24 Opelika 21
Central PC 17 Auburn 15

the scoreboard against everyone they play. Over on defense they aren't real big, but really run to the ball and are very aggressive. They are kind of a big play team on defense, just like on offense, and can hurt you on any play."

"For us to be successful Friday night we will need to dominate the line of scrimmage on both sides of the ball and be both aggressive and smart on defense," added Sieving. "On offense we need to establish the run, mix in some passes and put points on the scoreboard. Over on defense we will have to tackle well, use good technique and stop what they do best. Last week's game against Georgiana was a big game, but this is now the biggest game of the season because they have only one region loss and can jump into a tie for the top spot with a win. We expect Florala to play their best game of the season and probably

open the playbook wide open to put points on the scoreboard. Some teams we have played have tried to slow down the game by watching the play clock, but Florala won't worry about that and will come out blazing."

When asked about last week's 38-6 region win over Georgiana, Coach Sieving said, "It was a great win over a very good opponent and everyone played really hard. We did make some mistakes in the fourth quarter that upset the coaches, but they weren't from a lack of effort and we never stopped playing hard. Offensively we were able to run the football and put together drives that resulted in points, and on defense we made enough stops to get them off the field. It wasn't always pretty, but it was a good win, and believe me Georgiana has a really good team that will make some noise in the playoffs."



ELBA LADY TIGERS...(front row, l to r) Brooke Tinsley, Sydney Siler, and A'Lyric Whitfield; (back row, l to r) Jah'Haira Walker, Haylee Tucker, Kendra Juarez, Mary Kelley, Keelie Moseley, Aubrey Wisecup, and A'Layvia Stinson. Not pictured (JV players that moved up to Varsity) Taylor Day and Mary-Brooklyn O'Neal.

Elba youth football teams win one, lose two

The Elba Parks and Recreation youth football teams traveled to Goshen last Saturday, Oct. 14, and returned home with mixed results on the day.

Only the Elba Termites were able to pull off a victory last Saturday. The Temite Tigers shutout Goshen 30-0.

The Elba Mini Mites lost a close one to Goshen. The

final score in this game was 20-16 in favor of the young Eagles.


As for the Pee Wee teams, Elba was shutout by Goshen 36-0 last Saturday.

This Saturday, Oct. 21, the young Tigers will return home to host Arifton in rec league action at Tiger Stadium. Games begin at 8:30 a.m.

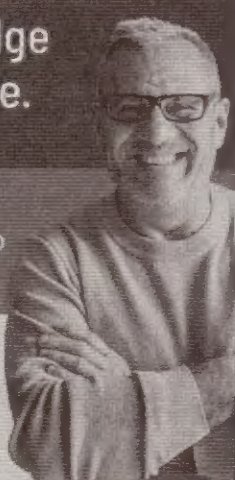
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SPORTS NEWS

Tigers pound Panthers 38-6

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor
Photos by BC Sports Photography

The Elba Tigers scored on their initial four offensive series to open up a 28-6 halftime lead and never looked back Friday night as they rolled to a 38-6 region win over the Georgiana Panthers, at Tiger Stadium.

Elba received the opening kickoff and promptly marched 80 yards in 12 plays and ate up over six minutes off the clock to grab an early 7-0 lead. Cayden Adkins rushed for 35 yards on three carries to lead the Tigers down the field, while Alvin Henderson added 28 yards on five carries and scored the Tiger touchdown on a 1-yard run, Alex Wisecup kicked the extra-point to put Elba on top 7-0 with 5:45 remaining in the first quarter.

Elba began its next possession at its own 42-yardline after Cayden Adkins partially blocked a Panther punt, and this time it took the Tigers seven plays to cover the 58 yards to the endzone. The trio of Alvin Henderson, Cayden Adkins and Brayden Johnson took turns butting heads with the Georgiana defense, with Johnson scoring the Tigers second touchdown of the half on a 13-yard dash up the middle. Wisecup added the extra-point as Elba upped its lead to 14-0 with 11:40 left in the second quarter.

Elba turned back a Georgiana scoring threat on the game's ensuing series when Cayden Adkins picked off a Panther pass at the two-yardline and returned the interception 29 yards to quickly flip the field. From there it took the Tigers six plays to get back into the endzone, with Alvin Henderson rushing for 51 yards on four carries and capping the 69-yard drive with a 15-yard td run. Wisecup added the extra-point, and with 5:16 left in the half the Tigers lead was up to 21-0.

Georgiana began its ensuing possession at its own 27-yardline and needed only one play to get on the scoreboard as on first down Jacobie Morgan hit Demetrius Watson with a short pass near the sidelines, and Watson broke two tackles and raced down the sidelines 73 yards for a score. A two-point pass failed to produce points, but with 4:50 left in the half Georgiana had cut the Elba lead to 21-6.

Elba began its fourth possession of the half near midfield after a 24-yard kickoff return by Alvin Henderson and this time needed only one play to regain command, as Henderson swept the right side, turned up field and raced 52 yards for his third touchdown of the night. Wisecup's extra-point try was good, and with 4:15 remaining in the half the Tigers were back in command with a 28-6 advantage.

Elba started the second half at the Georgiana 33-yardline after a 29-yard punt return by Cameron Gray, and while the Tigers failed to reach the endzone, they did add three-points on a 33-yard field goal by Alex Wisecup to push their lead to 31-6 with 7:27 remaining in the third quarter.

Elba got the ball right back at the Georgiana 25-yardline on a fumble recovery by Jacob Watkins and quickly cashed in the turnover to extend its lead. Alvin Henderson rushed for 26 yards on three carries and scored his fourth touchdown of the game on a 6-yard dash around the left end, and Wisecup tacked on the extra-point to put the Tigers on top 38-6 with 3:59 still left in the quarter.

Elba threatened again on its final possession of the game and put together an 11-play drive that ate up almost eight minutes off the clock. The Tigers reached a first down at the Georgiana 17-yardline, but a rash of penalty flags against Elba bogged down the long drive, and forced only the second punt of the season as the Tigers held on to post the big 38-6 region win.

Alvin Henderson rushed for 221 yards on 23 carries and scored 4 touchdowns to lead Elba, while Cayden Adkins added 69 yards on eight carries and Brayden Johnson rushed for 34 yards and 1 td on eight carries. Henderson also completed one pass for 11 yards, with Ty Sieving pulling in the pass.

Jacobie Morgan rushed for 41 yards on 10 carries and completed 8 of 17 passes for 175 yards and 1 touchdown to lead Georgiana, with Demetrius Watson pulling in three passes for 85 yards and one td.



Elba Tiger fans packed 'The Mack' last Friday night for the region clash with Georgiana.

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Elba Tiger Kade Harrison (20) proudly holds the American flag prior to honoring area veterans at Military Appreciation Night at Tiger Stadium.



Elba Tiger cheerleader Haylee Tucker had plenty of reasons to cheer last week in a 38-6 Tiger win over Georgiana. This week the Tihgers will travel to Florida in a key region clash.



Elba Tiger Kaleb Mitchell (55) gets a much-needed water break during last Friday night's game.



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Elba Tiger Brayden Johnson (12) eyes the endzone as he takes off on a 13-yard touchdown run in last week's 38-6 win over Georgiana.



Elba Tiger Alvin Henderson (2) heads upfield for a big gain. Henderson rushed for 221 yards and 4 touchdowns in last week's big 38-6 region win over Georgiana.

The yardstick....

E		G
20	1st Downs	10
41-335	Rushes-Yds.	23-72
11	Passing Yds.	175
346	Total Offense	247
1-4-0	Passes	8-17-1
1/0	Fumbles/Lost	4/1
1-42	Punts-Ave.	3-29
11-80	Penalties-Yds.	8-70



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SPORTS NEWS



Zion Chapel Rebel coaches had a reason to smile last week in an 18-0 region win over Geneva County that evened their record at 4-4.



Kinston High School Band performs at halftime at all Kinston Bulldog football games. The band performed Saturday in a marching festival and received superior ratings for its performance.



Gamecock cheerleader keeps the spirit as the Gamecocks battle in region play.

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ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Zion Chapel blanks Geneva County 18-0

From combined reports
Photos by Amanda Clark
The Zion Chapel Rebels evened their record at 4-4 and kept their slim playoff hopes alive Friday night with a big 18-0 region road win over the Geneva County Bulldogs, in Hartford.

Mason Stuart scored a touchdown on a 5-yard run and threw touchdown passes of 13 and 40 yards to Micah Fuller as the Rebels posted their first-ever win over the Bulldogs.

Kinston Bulldogs upset by Red Level 31-29

Statistics by W.J. Adcock
Photos by BC Sports Photography
The Kinston Bulldogs saw their playoff hopes dashed Friday night in a 31-29 upset loss to the Red Level Tigers, at Tiger Stadium.

Kinston got on the scoreboard first early in the second quarter on a 32-yard field goal by Marcus Free to grab a 3-0 lead. However, Red Level had a quick response to the first points of the game and went ahead 6-3 with 8:51 left in the half when Koltin Barlow connected with Javen Poindexter on a 37-yard scoring pass.

The Bulldogs got a break late in the half when Dray Weeks recovered a fumble at the Red Level 29-yardline following a botched punt attempt, and two plays later Brant McCollough scored on an 18-yard dash to put Kinston back on top. Free added the extra-point, and at halftime the Bulldogs carried a 10-6 lead into the dressing room.

Kinston received he second half kickoff and promptly marched 93 yards in only five plays to extend its lead. Colby Tew scored the Bulldog touchdown on a 62-yard gallop, and Free added the extra-point as Kinston opened up a 17-6 lead with 9:36 remaining in the third quarter.

The combination of Barlow to Poindexter connected again on Red Level's ensuing possession, this time on a 55-yard touchdown toss, to pull the Tigers within 17-12 with 8:50 left in the quarter, while on the Tigers next possession Poindexter broke loose and raced 44 yards into the endzone to put Red Level on top 18-17 with 3:06 remaining on the clock.

Kinston answered quickly on its ensuing possession and regained the lead at 23-18 with 1:41 still left in the quarter on a 52-yard scoring run by Brant McCollough, but Red Level refused to slow down and scored on its next offensive series on a 3-yard run by Poindexter to go back on top 24-23 with 8:49 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Disaster struck the Bulldogs on the ensuing kickoff when a fumble handed the ball back to Red Level at the Kinston 34-yardline, and the Tigers wasted little time cashing in the turnover as Koltin Barlow again hooked up with Javen Poindexter, this time from 15 yards out, and the extra-point was successful as Red Level opened up a 31-23 lead with 7:10 left on the clock.

Kinston began its ensuing possession at its own 35-yardline and went 65 yards in eight plays to get back into the endzone. Colby Tew scored his second touchdown of the night on a 13-yard run, but a two-point try failed to produce points, and with 3:30 left on the clock the Bulldogs trailed 31-29.

An on-sides kick attempt by Kinston was recovered by Red Level, and the Tigers moved the chains twice to run out the clock as they surprised Kinston 31-29 in the key region clash.

Colby Tew rushed for 203 yards and two touchdowns on 25 carries to lead the Kinston ground attack, while Brant McCollough rushed for 144 yards and two td's on nine carries.

New Brockton drops 41-12 region clash to Straughn

Statistics by Brandon White
Photos by Ashley Bertsch
The New Brockton Gamecocks saw their region woes continue Friday night with a 41-12 homefield loss to the Straughn Tigers.

Dawson Peacock completed 5 of 15 passes with 4 interceptions for 59 yards to lead New Brockton in the air, with Anthony Silar pulling in 3 passes for 37 yards and one touchdown, while Yassiah Rousseau led the Gamecocks on the ground with 96 yards and one td on 19 carries.

The New Brockton defense was paced by Blake Peterson with 13 tackles and a forced fumble, while Bryant Crumpler added 10 tackles, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery; Josiah Peterson added 6 tackles and one sack; Gavin Hand added 23 tackles and a fumble recovery; and, Micah Whitt-Murphy had an interception.

Parker Black led Straughn as he had three interceptions and returned two for touchdowns on 52 and 43-yard returns, while Layne Grantham had two touchdowns rushing, and Chris White and Charlie Jordan both had one rushing score.

Straughn scored late in the opening quarter to grab a 7-0 lead and upped its lead to 14-0 early in the second quarter on a pick-six, only to see New Brockton pull within 14-6 midway through the quarter on a 23-yard pass from Peacock to Silar.

Straughn added a pair of touchdowns in the final three minutes of the half to up its advantage to 34-6, and took a 41-6 lead midway through the third quarter before the Gamecocks scored in the game's final minute on a 43-yard dash by Yassiah Rousseau.

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LET'EM HEAR YOU CHEER!!



Zion Chapel Rebel cheerleaders were flying high last week as the Rebels evened their record at 4-4 with an 18-0



Kinston Bulldog Colby Tew (21) rushed for 203 yards and two touchdowns last week in a 31-29 region loss to the Red Level Tigers.



New Brockton Gamecock Blake Peterson (15) had 13 tackles and a forced fumble last week in a 41-12 homefield loss to Straughn.



The Kinston Junior Varsity Volleyball team completed the 2023 season with an overall record of 12-3. Team members were: (front, l to r) Paisley Clark, River Riley, Maggie Martin, Rylie Rhoades, and Gracie Rhoades; (back, l to r) Ava Carnley, Lyla Bruce, Taylor McKinney, Brynne Kelley, and Adalyn Wise.